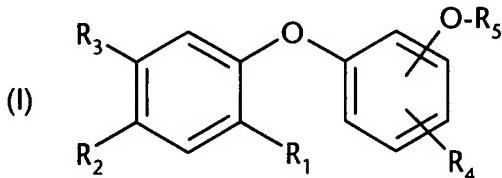


6. (currently amended): A method of reducing body odour by means of the inhibition of arylsulfatase on the skin, wherein which comprises applying to said skin a cosmetic deodorant or antiperspirant composition comprising at least one arylsulfatase-inhibiting substance selected from hydroxydiphenyl ethers of general formula



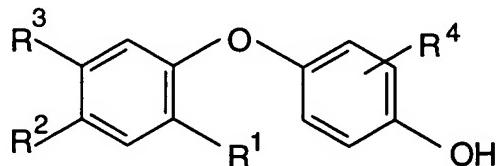
wherein

R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> independently from each other are hydrogen; hydroxy; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>alkyl; hydroxy-substituted C<sub>1</sub>C<sub>20</sub>alkyl; C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>cycloalkyl; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>alkoxy; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkylcarbonyl; phenyl; or phenyl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub>alkyl;

R<sub>4</sub> hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>alkyl; hydroxy-substitute C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>alkyl; C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>cycloalkyl; hydroxy; formyl; acetonyl; allyl; carboxy; carboxy-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub>alkyl; carboxyallyl; C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>alkenyl; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylcarbonyl; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub>alkylcarbonyl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub>alkyl; phenyl; or phenyl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub>alkyl; and

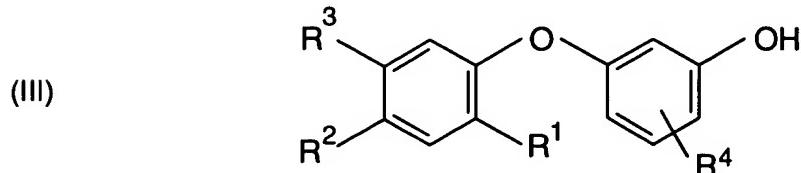
R<sub>5</sub> is hydrogen; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>alkoxy; or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkylcarbonyl.

7. (currently amended): A method according to claim 6, wherein the arylsulfatase-inhibiting substance is selected from hydroxydiphenyl ethers of general formula (II)

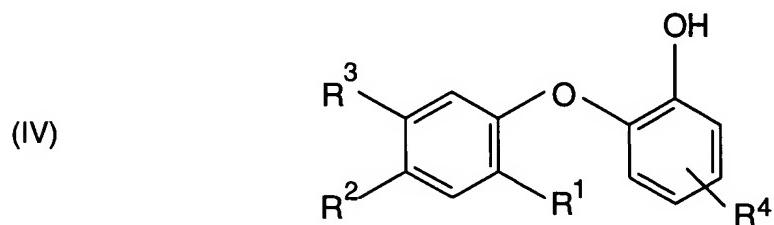


wherein R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> are each independently of the other a hydrogen atom, a hydroxy group or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>alkyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>cycloalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkylcarbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>alkoxy, phenyl or phenyl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub>alkyl group, R<sub>3</sub> is a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>alkyl or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>alkoxy group and R<sub>4</sub> is a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>alkyl, hydroxy-substituted C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>alkyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>cycloalkyl, hydroxy, formyl, acetonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkylcarbonyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>alkenyl, carboxy, carboxy-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub>alkylcarbonyl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub>alkyl or carboxyallyl group,

hydroxydiphenyl ethers of general formula



wherein R<sub>2</sub> is a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>alkyl, hydroxy-substituted C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>alkyl or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkylcarbonyl group, R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> are each independently of the other a hydrogen atom, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkylcarbonyl group or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>alkyl group and R<sub>4</sub> is a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>alkyl, hydroxy-substituted C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>alkyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>cycloalkyl, hydroxy, formyl, acetonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkylcarbonyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>alkenyl, carboxy, carboxy-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub>alkylcarbonyl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub>alkyl or carboxyallyl group, and hydroxydiphenyl ethers of general formula



wherein R<sub>1</sub> is a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkylcarbonyl or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>alkyl group, R<sub>4</sub> is a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>alkyl, hydroxy-substituted C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>alkyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>cycloalkyl, hydroxy, formyl, acetonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkylcarbonyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>alkenyl, carboxy, carboxy-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub>alkylcarbonyl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub>alkyl or carboxyallyl group and R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> are each independently of the other a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkylcarbonyl or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>alkyl group,

is applied to the skin, especially to the skin of the armpits.

8. (currently amended): A method of reducing body odour according to claim 6-~~or 7~~ wherein the arylsulfatase-inhibiting substance is used gender-specifically in respect of the amount and/or nature thereof.

9. (currently amended): Method of reducing body odour according to claim 6-~~or 7~~, wherein the arylsulfatase-inhibiting substance is used for reducing body odour in men.